

CLAIMS

1. An impact compactor, which includes
  - 5 a chassis structure having wheels for supporting the structure above the ground;  
  
a non-round roller carried on an axle assembly mounted on the chassis structure via a pivotally located drag link; and
  - 10 a lifting arrangement for lifting the location of the non-round roller with respect to the chassis structure to a raised level at which the roller is spaced above the ground on which the chassis structure is supported by its wheels, the lifting arrangement including a lifting arm, located above the drag link and having a depending lifting formation that can engage either one of the drag link and the
  - 15 axle assembly carried by the drag link, when displaced operatively upwardly, and a piston/cylinder mechanism operatively connected between the lifting arm and the chassis structure and being operable to displace the lifting arm between a first position, in which the lifting formation is spaced from the one of the drag link and the axle assembly to be engaged thereby, and a second position, in which the
  - 20 lifting formation is engaged with the one of the drag link and the axle assembly and the non-round roller is thereby raised with respect to the chassis structure to a level at which it is spaced above the ground on which the chassis structure is supported by its wheels.
- 25 2. An impact compactor as claimed in Claim 1, in which the depending lifting formation of the lifting arm of the lifting arrangement is formed to engage the drag link via an engagement formation on the link.
- 30 3. An impact compactor as claimed in Claim 1, in which the depending lifting formation of the lifting arm of the lifting arrangement is formed to engage the axle assembly via an engagement formation on the assembly.

4. An impact compactor as claimed in Claim 2 or in Claim 3, in which the piston of the piston/cylinder mechanism particularly has a stroke that provides for the required displacement of the lifting arm between its first and second positions, the first position of the lifting arm providing particularly for a spacing between the depending lifting formation and the engagement formation to be engaged thereby, to permit operation of the compactor without mechanical interference by the lifting arrangement.  
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5. An impact compactor as claimed in any one of the preceding claims, in which the depending lifting formation of the lifting arm extends through a space provided therefor by the drag link.  
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6. An impact compactor as claimed in any one of the preceding claims, in which the piston/cylinder mechanism forming part of the lifting arrangement is hydraulically operable and its operation is controllable by an operator of the compactor.  
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7. An impact compactor as claimed in any one of the preceding claims, in which the end of the piston/cylinder mechanism supported on the chassis structure is pivotally supported via a formation provided therefor on the chassis structure, in the location of the general plane of the chassis structure.  
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8. An impact compactor as claimed in any one of the preceding claims, in which the lifting arm of the lifting arrangement is pivotally displaceable between its first and second positions.  
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9. An impact compactor as claimed in Claim 8, in which the lifting arm is pivotally supported on the drag link at a location near the pivotally located end of the drag link.
- 30 10. An impact compactor as claimed in Claim 8, in which the lifting arm is pivotally supported on a component of the compactor other than the drag link.

11. An impact compactor as claimed in Claim 10, in which the lifting arm is pivotally supported on the component particularly at a position near the pivotally located end of the drag link.
- 5 12. An impact compactor as claimed in any one of Claims 9 to 11, in which the end of the piston/cylinder mechanism connected to the lifting arm is pivotally connected thereto at a location near the end of the lifting arm remote from the end thereof that is pivotally supported.
- 10 13. An impact compactor as claimed in any one of the preceding claims, which is configured to be towed by a tractor for its operation.
14. An impact compactor as claimed in any one of Claims 1 to 12, which is self-propelled.
- 15 15. An impact compactor as claimed in any one of the preceding claims, which includes a pair of non-round rollers, as defined, and in which the axle assembly carried by the drag link and the lifting arrangement are disposed between the rollers.
- 20 16. An impact compactor as claimed in any one of Claims 1 to 14, in which the non-round roller is a single roller and which includes and a pair of lifting arrangements, as defined, disposed on opposite sides of the roller.
- 25 17. An impact compactor substantially as described herein with reference to and as illustrated in the accompanying diagrammatic drawings.